

## Lesson 23: What does it mean to be committed to the pursuit of a transformed church and society?

Thirteenth Sunday in Kingdomtide

November 17, 2019

**General Concept:** To be committed to the pursuit of a transformed church and society means to consecrate our whole being to the work of ushering in the Reign of God.

**Biblical Reference:** 2 Kings 22-23 ; Romans 12:2a

**Key Verse:** Romans 12:2a

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind “

### Age-Level Concepts

- I can help in the work for change.
- I pledge to help bring about God’s Reign.

### Learning Objectives:

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Say that they want God’s Reign to happen
- Mention what they can do to help in the work for change
- Pray that God’s Reign will come soon

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket; Visual aids for the story; Color sheet (see Art Activity)

### Biblical Background

2 Kings 22-23

In reading the biblical lists of kings, it is rare to find one who obeyed God completely. Josiah was such a person, and he was only eight years old when he began to reign. For 18 years he reigned obediently. Before him, was a long line of evil kings – the reason why the record of God’s laws had been lost. This book may have been the entire Pentateuch (Genesis-Deuteronomy) or just the book of Deuteronomy.

Josiah, who was about 26 years old at this time, wanted religious reforms throughout the nation based on God’s laws. When God’s Word was found, drastic changes had to be made to bring the kingdom in line with God’s commands. (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 649*).

Romans 12:2a

Christians are called to “not conform any longer to the pattern of this world,” with its behavior and customs that are usually selfish and often corrupting. But only when the Holy Spirit renews, reeducates, and redirects our minds are we truly transformed. (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible*, p. 2050).

## **Suggested Lesson Outline**

### ***Greeting Time***

Welcome the children to your class. Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing “Kumusta Ka” & “Dito sa Sunday School ay Masayang Tunay”

### ***Learning Time***

Discovering the Biblical Truth

“King Josiah Makes Changes”  
(2 Kings chapters 22-23)

In Israel, there was a king named Josiah. He was a very young king. He was only eight years old when he became a king. King Josiah loved God. He worshipped God alone.

When King Josiah was 26 years old, he found the Book of Laws. He read all the laws. After reading, he realized that his people did not observe the laws. They had stopped worshipping God. They built altars and images of other gods and worshipped them inside the temple.

King Josiah was very unhappy. He knew that God was unhappy too. He was also scared that God will punish them for not observing God’s laws and for worshipping other gods.

So, King Josiah decided to make changes. He had all the altars and images of other gods destroyed and thrown away. He called all the people to return to God and worship God again.

King Josiah was very happy for the changes in the temple and the people.

Singing Time “When we Change” (Tune: London Bridge)  
(A new stanza is added – 2<sup>nd</sup> stanza)

When we change God (reigns in us) 3x  
When we change God reigns in us  
Alleluia!

Help us God to (change our ways) 3x  
Help us God to change our ways  
Alleluia!

Thank you, God for (changing us) 3x  
Thank you God for changing us  
Alleluia!

### Memorizing a Verse

Let the children memorize and recite Romans 12:2a

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind

“

### Lessons Learned

We see God’s reign or God’s presence when we work for change.

### Applying the Lessons Learned

#### A. Art Activity - Coloring



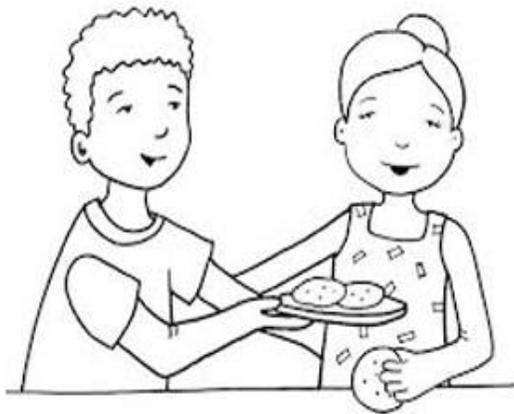
### **KING JOSIAH AND THE BOOK OF LAWS**

#### B. I Work for Change

Give each child a copy of this activity sheet. Let them color the pictures that show working for change.

# I WORK FOR CHANGE

Color the pictures that show working for change.



## *Closing Time*

Sing again. "When We Change"

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you that you that you are always with us – guiding us and teaching us. Teach us to do the right thing, and to change the bad ones so that your reign becomes a reality to us. Amen.

Goodbye Song “Our Sunday School is Over”

Our Sunday School is over and we are going home  
Goodbye, goodbye, be always kind and good.

### **Lesson 24: What does it mean to have an abundant life?**

Fourteenth Sunday in Kingdomtide  
November 24, 2019

**General Concept:** Abundant life means resources are sufficient and equitably shared among everyone.

**Biblical References:** Acts 2:44-47; Acts 4:32-36

**Key Verse:** Acts 4:34

God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all <sup>34</sup> that there were no needy persons among them.

#### **Age-Level Concepts**

- Abundant life means no one goes hungry and no one is in need.
- Abundant life means each one has a share of everything God created in order to live.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Give their own understanding of the concept of sharing
- Recognize that there are people who are hungry and need help
- Mention ways of helping those who are hungry and in need

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, Visual aids for the story; Color sheet (see Art Activity)

#### **Biblical Background**

Acts 2:44-47; Acts 4:32-36

Recognizing the other believers as brothers and sisters in the family of God, the Christians in Jerusalem shared all they had so that all could benefit from God's gifts. None of these Christians felt that what they had was their own, and so they were able to give and share, eliminating poverty among them. They would not let a brother or sister suffer when others had plenty.

The early church was able to share possessions and property as a result of the unity brought by the Holy Spirit working in and through the believers' lives. This way of living is different from other communities at that time "because (1) the sharing was voluntary; (2) it didn't involve *all* private property, but only as much as was needed; (3) it was not a membership requirement in order to be a part of the church. This spiritual unity and generosity was just a clear manifestation of how the Holy Spirit worked through them that attracted others to them". (Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, pp. 1948, 1952)

## **Suggested Lesson Outline**

### ***Greeting Time***

Welcome the children to your class. Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing        "Moshi, Moshi"  
              Moshi, Moshi  
              Hola, hola  
              Hello, kumusta! (Repeat)  
              Moshi, hola  
              Hello, kumusta ka  
              Moshi, hola  
              Hello, kumusta ka  
              Moshi, Moshi  
              Hola, hola  
              Hello, kumusta ka.

### ***Learning Time***

Introducing the Lesson

Show the following pictures to the children. Ask them first to describe the image in the picture. Then ask them, "What will you do if you see someone like this?"



Yes, we can share to them what they don't have. Sharing is a good practice. God wants us to share. Here is a story of how the early Christians shared.

## Discovering the Biblical Truth

### “Early Christians Give Generously” (based on Acts 2:44-47; Acts 4:32-36)

When Jesus went to heaven, his friends continued his work. They went from place to place to spread the news about Jesus. Many people believed in their teachings. They too became followers of Jesus. Every day, they would gather together to study, to pray and worship God. Everybody shared their things to each other. The rich people would sell their possessions and gave anyone who had need.

Joseph was one of the rich men. He sold a piece of land, and gave the money to the poor. There was enough food and other things for all. There were no hungry nor needy persons among them. Every one lived abundantly.

#### Learning a New Song “I’m Giving, I’m Giving” (Children Praise God, 112)

I’m giving, I’m giving, because I love Jesus  
I’m giving, I’m giving, because I love Him.

Refrain:

Giving, giving, gladly giving day by day  
Giving, giving, gladly day bay day.

I’m giving, I’m giving to all who are needy  
I’m giving, I’m giving, to help those in need.

#### *Memorizing a Verse*

Let the children memorize and recite Acts 4:34

“God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all <sup>34</sup> that there were no needy persons among them.”

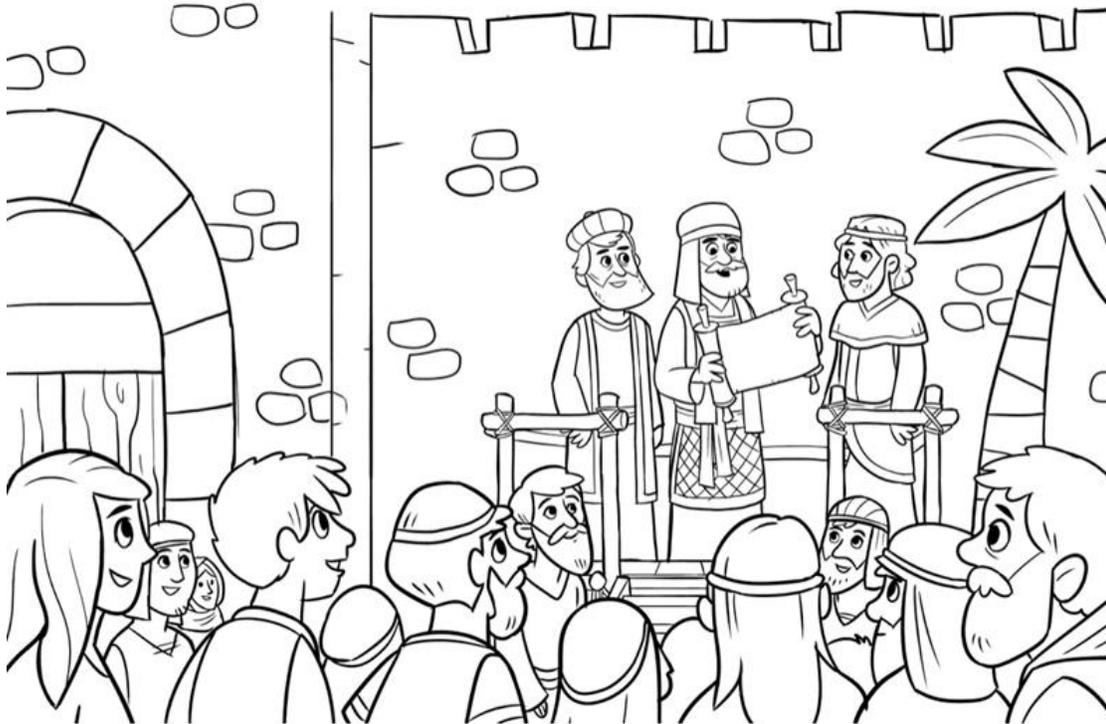
#### *Lessons Learned*

“ Everybody will live in abundance if we share whatever we have.”

#### Applying the Lessons Learned

Art Activity - Coloring

## **THE EARLY CHURCH:** They were one in heart and mind and they gave to others in need.



### **I WILL SHARE**

- a) Show again the pictures that you have presented earlier. Ask the children what they can give so that children like those in the pictures can experience a good life that they are experiencing. List down the things they want to give.
- b) Let them bring the thing/s they want to share next meeting.
- c) After Sunday School, maybe in the afternoon, find some children in need and give them the items you have collected. You may coordinate this activity with your pastor. Allow the children themselves to share to other children the items that they have brought for sharing.

### ***Closing Time***

Sing again            “I’m Giving, I’m Giving”

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you that you that each day You have provided us with the things we need in order to live. We feel sorry for those who are hungry and are suffering from poverty. Teach us to share with them whatever we have, so that they will also experience a good life that we have experienced. Amen.

## Goodbye Song    Our Sunday School is Over

Our Sunday School is over and we are going home  
Goodbye, goodbye, be always kind and good.

### *Lesson 25: What does it mean to have a meaningful life?*

First Sunday of Advent  
December 1, 2019

**General Concept:** A meaningful life is a life full of love, lived serving God and others.

**Biblical Reference:** Luke 7:1-10, 1 John 3:16

**Key Verse:** 1 John 3:16

<sup>16</sup> This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

### **Age-Level Concepts**

- Life is good if there is love.
- I feel happy when I help others.
- I feel great when I serve God.

### **Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Show how they can serve God and give love
- Express happiness when helping others
- Share how they feel when they serve God

**Materials:**    The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket; visual aids for the story; color sheet and cut-out pictures (see Art Activity)

### **Biblical Background**

Luke 7:1-10

A centurion was a Roman army officer in charge of 100 men. This man came to Jesus not as a last resort or magic charm, but because he believed Jesus was sent from God. Apparently the centurion recognized that the Jews possessed God's message for mankind – it is recorded that

he loved the nation and built the synagogue. Thus, in his time of need, it was natural for him to turn to Jesus.

Why did the centurion send Jewish elders to Jesus instead of going himself? Since he was well aware of the Jewish hatred for Roman soldiers, he may not have wanted to interrupt a Jewish gathering. As an army captain, he daily delegated work and sent groups on missions, so this was how he chose to get his message to Jesus.

The Roman centurion did not come to Jesus, and he did not expect Jesus to come to him. Just as this officer did not need to be present to have his orders carried out, so Jesus did not need to be present to heal. The centurion's faith was especially amazing because he was a Gentile who had not been brought up to know a loving God. (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 1808-1809*).

1 John 3:16

Real love is an action, not a feeling. It produces selfless, sacrificial giving. The greatest act of love is giving oneself for others. We, too, can lay down our lives by serving others with no thought of receiving anything in return. Sometimes it is easier to say we'll die for others than to truly live for them – this involves putting others' desires first. (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 2280*).

### **Suggested Lesson Outline**

#### ***Greeting Time***

Welcome the children to your class. Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing            "When You're Happy and You Know It"  
When you're happy and you know it - clap your hands  
When you're happy and you know it - clap your hands  
When you're happy and you know it  
And your face will surely show it.  
when you're happy and you know it - clap your hands.

- say "Amen"

#### ***Learning Time***

Introducing the Lesson

Show the following pictures to the children and ask them: How do you show your love to:

1. Father and Mother; Papa and Mama; Tatay and Nanay
2. Lolo & Lola

3. Siblings

4. Yaya/kasambahay



Yes, we can show our love for them by caring for them, helping them, and not hurting them. Here's one man who loved his servant so much.

#### Discovering the Biblical Truth

“Please, Tell Jesus”  
(Based on Luke 7:1-10)

There was a centurion. He was a leader of a hundred soldiers. He had a servant who was very, very sick and was dying. He loved his servant so much. He did not want his servant to die. He heard about Jesus. He believed that Jesus can heal his servant.

He sent some of his men to Jesus. He said, “Please tell Jesus to heal my servant. He does not need to come to my house. Tell Jesus to say the words that my servant is healed. “

The men went to Jesus. They said, “Jesus, the centurion is begging you to heal his servant.” Jesus smiled at them and replied, “Go back to him. His servant is already healed.”

When they returned to the centurion, they saw the servant was already healed.

Review the Story. Ask the following questions:

1. Describe the centurion.
2. What happened to his servant?
3. What did the centurion do to help his servant?
4. Do you think Jesus was happy with what the centurion did?
5. If you were the centurion, will you also help the servant?

Learning a New Song “Jesus Loves and Cares”

(Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star)

Jesus loves and Jesus cares, I will also love and care  
Feed the hungry, heal the sick, help the weak and those in need.  
Jesus loves and Jesus cares, I will also love and care.

*Memorizing a Verse*

Let the children recite 1 John 3:16

<sup>16</sup>This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

*Lessons Learned*

Everyone will experience a good life when we show love to each other. Helping and serving others is a happy experience.

Applying the Lessons Learned:

Art Activity - Coloring

## The Centurion Meets Jesus

“Only say the word, and my servant shall be healed.”



### COLLAGE MAKING

On a piece of cartolina, write the title: LIFE IS GOOD AND HAPPY WHEN WE LOVE

Provide the children with different cut-out pictures. Let each child choose one or two pictures that show love. Help them paste the pictures on the cartolina.

Sample Pictures:





### **Closing Time**

Sing again      “Jesus Loves and Cares”

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you that you that each day, You love us and care for us. But there are those who do not experience love. They are hungry, they are sick, they have no homes, no father and mother that cares for them. Teach us, Lord, to show love by serving them and giving them what they need, so that they will also experience a good and happy life. Amen.

Goodbye Song      Our Sunday School is Over

Our Sunday School is over and we are going home  
Goodbye, goodbye, be always kind and good.

### **Lesson 26: What does “all” mean?**

Second Sunday of Advent  
December 8, 2019

**General Concept:** “All” means all created beings.

**Biblical Reference:** Genesis 1, John 1:3a

**Key Verse:** John 1:3a

<sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made.

### **Age-Level Concepts**

- “All” means everything that God created.
- “All” means everyone, whoever and whatever they are.

### **Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Explain what “all” means
- Tell who are included when we say “all”
- Thank God that everybody is included in God’s world

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket ;Visual aids for the story;Color sheet and cut-out pictures (see Art Activity)

### **Biblical Background**

Genesis 1

Genesis explains the beginning of many important realities: the universe, earth, people, sin, and God’s plan of salvation.

The Creation story in Genesis 1 shows us how every creature including humankind began. It further teaches us that the earth is good and well made, as manifested in how each living being is part of each other and inter-related with each other.

Genesis 1 tells us that God did not *need* to create the universe; he *chose* to create it. Why? Because God is love, and love is best expressed toward something or someone else – so God created the world and people as an expression of his love. Since God chose to create us, we are all valuable in his eyes (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 5*), whoever and whatever we are.

John 1:3

John 1:3 tells us that God created the entire universe – each creature being part of and related with each other. God created the human being special, endowed with special gifts. (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 2280*).

### **Suggested Lesson Outline**

**Greeting Time**

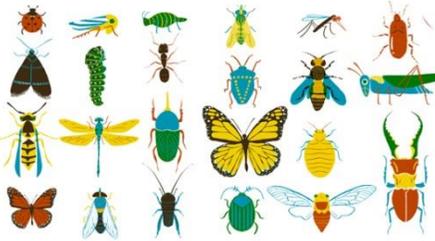
Welcome the children to your class. Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing "The Love of Jesus"  
The love of Jesus is sweet and marvelous  
The love of Jesus is sweet and marvelous  
The love of Jesus is sweet and marvelous  
Oh, oh wonderful love.  
Higher than the mountains  
Deeper than the oceans  
Wider than the universe  
Oh, oh wonderful love.

**Learning Time**

You may use the following sample pictures when you tell the story of creation.





## Discovering the Biblical Truth

### “God Created Everything” (Based on Genesis 1)

At first, there was nothing. Then God began to create. God created the skies and the clouds. God also created the dry lands. There are hills and mountains in the land. There are also volcanoes. God created different kinds of plants. Some bear fruits and some have flowers. Some are vegetables. God also created different kinds of trees. Some trees bear fruits, some do not.

God created waters also – the seas, the rivers, lakes. Then God created different kinds of animals – those that walk on the ground and those that fly in the sky. He also created animals that live in waters. Some can be eaten and some are not.

God created lights, too – big and small lights. He created the moon and the stars to light at night. He also created the sun to light the day.

Then finally, God created human beings– a man and a woman. God’s creation is now complete.

God was very happy with all that was created. They were all good and beautiful.

Review the Story: After the story telling, ask the children the following:

1. Mention all the things that God made?
2. Are dogs and cats included in God’s creation?
3. Are oceans included in God’s creation?
4. Is baby included in God’s creation?
5. Are you included in God’s creation?
6. Is there anything that God did not include?

Yes, all things that we see around that have life are all created by God. They all belong to God and they are God's. Nothing is excluded.

Learning a New Song "God Said, "I Love You" (Children Praise God, 91)

God said "I love you" and God made the swimming fish  
God made the swimming fish, God made the swimming fish  
God said, "I love you" and God made the swimming fish,  
God made the swimming fish for us.

- falling rain
- blooming flowers
- swaying trees
- buzzing bees

Or "God Made Everything (Children Praise God, 226)

Or "Who Made the Flowers that Bloom"

*Memorizing a Verse*

Let the children memorize and recite John 1:3a.

"<sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made."

*Lessons Learned*

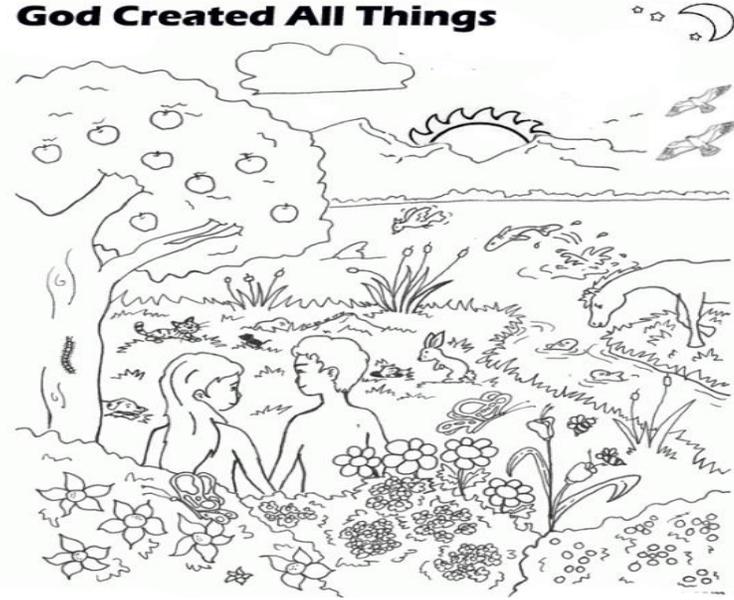
Everyone will experience a good life when we show love to each other. Helping and serving others is a happy experience.

*Applying the Lessons Learned*

You can have these two activities done, or you can just choose one, depending on your time.

Art Activity - Coloring

## God Created All Things



or

### COLLAGE MAKING

On a piece of cartolina, write the title: GOD CREATED ALL THINGS.

Provide the children with different cut-out pictures of things that God created. Let each child choose one or two pictures. Help them paste the pictures on the cartolina.

### *Closing Time*

Sing again "God Said, I Love You"

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you for creating everything. Thank you for including us in your creation, and the others too. We love to see all these things every day. We praise you for creating each of us. Teach us always to look at others including other children and all created things are included in your world. May we always live together as one. Amen.

Goodbye Song Our Sunday School is Over

Our Sunday School is over and we are going home  
Goodbye, goodbye, be always kind and good.

**Lesson 27. What does an abundant and meaningful life for all look like?**

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2019

**General Concept:** An abundant and meaningful life is where everyone enjoys the fruits of their labor, basic social needs are met, and there is mutual respect for the dignity of life.

**Biblical Reference:** Isaiah 65:17-25

**Key Verse:** Isaiah 65:21

<sup>21</sup>They will build houses and dwell in them;  
they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

Or Isaiah 65:22b

...my chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands.

**Age-Level Concepts:**

- Life is good when everyone has enough food to eat, clothes to wear, and a house to live in.
- Everyone must be good to each other.

**Learning Objectives**

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Describe what a good life is all about
- Picture out a life where everyone is good to each other
- Pray that God gives everyone a good life

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, Visual aids for the story, Color sheets

**Biblical Background**

Isaiah 65:17-25

This text is part of the so-called Isaiah's motif of glorification of Zion. Verses 17-19 are absolutely luminous with language of creating and delighting. "I am about to create," God sings. "I am creating...I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight." Peace and righteousness will oversee the life teeming within Zion's gates (60:17); violence, predation, and fear will be no more. This is a declaration of the promises of God concerning abundant life.

God's people will know no more weeping or cries of distress, no more premature loss of life; homes will be built and inhabited; vineyards will be planted and their fruit enjoyed (implicitly contrasted here is the ancient terror of being dispossessed by an enemy. "Like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be" (verse 22) we imagine a mature olive tree, gnarled and green and leafy, being a metaphor for spiritual serenity and fruitfulness. Labor will never again be in vain. Childbirth will yield generation upon generation of blessed offspring. There is a touching divine word for a traumatized community that felt God's absence keenly during the exile: "before they call, I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear" (verse 24). Never again will God hide God's face. Moreover, the primeval ancestors' sorrows will be transformed into the joy of blessed offspring and enduring enjoyment of the fruit of human labor. Thus Israel's glorious restoration which refers to the vision of "new heavens and new earth" that God is creating will have Zion at their center. A healed Israel will be cherished within the very heart of God's delight. Good news indeed: "They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD." The believer is left longing for that place of unending reconciliation and joy (*Lungay*).

### **Suggested Lesson Outline**

#### ***Greeting Time***

Welcome the children to your class. Greet each one with "Magandang Buhay"

Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing "Ang Umaga Ngayon" Children Praise God, 92

Ang umaga ngayon kay ganda, kay ganda

Ang umaga ngayon kay ganda, kay ganda

Tayo ay magsaya, magbigay nga ligaya

Ang umaga ngayon, kay ganda, kay ganda.

#### ***Learning Time***

Starting the Lesson: Ask each child just one reason why life is good and beautiful.

Discovering the Biblical Truth

"God Promised a Good and Beautiful Life"

(Based on Isaiah 65:17-25)

Long time ago, the people of God suffered so much. They lost their houses and nowhere to find shelter. Someone else lived in their houses. They also lost their lands. They had no place to plant for their food, no place to dig wells for their water. They went hungry. There was no food to eat. No water to drink, too. Their children were taken away from them. They cried to the Lord for help.

Then God came and promised his people. God said: "Rejoice, my people. Your suffering has ended. You can build your houses now and dwell in them. You can plant and eat their fruit. You dig wells and drink from them. "

The people were very happy. They started building their houses. They planted vegetables and grains. They planted fruit trees, too. They also raised animals for their food. They dug wells for their water. There was abundance for all. No one went hungry and thirsty. No one lived in poverty.

They lived in their houses safe and secure day and night. No one disturbed them. No one took away their children. No one hurt others.

They lived long and happy lives.

#### Learning a New Song

"We're Happy, Very Happy Today" (Children Praise God, 169)  
(stanza 2-3-4 are added to fit the lesson)

We're happy, very happy today, God loves us, I know  
God loves us, I know  
We're happy, very happy today, God loves us  
We know that God loves us.

We're happy, very happy today, we have food to eat  
We have clothes to wear  
We're happy, very happy today  
We have what we need every day.

We're happy, very happy today, we have homes to dwell  
With parents that care  
We're happy, very happy today  
We have what we need every day.

We're happy, very happy today  
We have peaceful homes, and good neighbors, too  
We're happy, very happy today  
We have what we need every day.

You may also want to teach this song, if you're familiar with it:

Father we thank Thee for the night, and for the pleasant morning light  
For rest, and food, and loving care, and all that makes the day so fair.

#### *Memorizing a Verse*

Let the children memorize and recite Isaiah 65:21

<sup>21</sup> They will build houses and dwell in them;  
they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

Or Isaiah 65:22b

...my chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands.

*Lesson Learned*

A good life can be experienced by all when we have food to eat, clothes to wear,  
house to dwell, and respected by all.

*Applying the Lessons Learned*

You can have these two activities done, or you can just choose one, depending on your time.

Art Activity – Coloring

Color the pictures that show abundant or good life.

**I LIVE A GOOD LIFE**  
Color the pictures that show a good life.



Boodle Fight – Try a boodle fight with the children. Coordinate this activity with the parents for the food preparation. Let each child invite a one poor neighbor to join.

**Closing Time**

Sing again

“We’re Happy, Very Happy Today”

## Offering

### Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you for the many things that you have provided us every day - for the food that we eat, for the clothes we wear, and for the house we live in. Thank you for our families that love us, for our friends whom we play with, and for the people that care for us when we are sick. Thank you for our good neighbors. Thank for our peaceful and safe neighborhood. Thank you that we can play around with no one to hurt us. We praise you for the abundance of all good things and people around us. Help us to share what we have to others in need, that they may we always experience a good life like us. Amen.

### Goodbye Song "Our Sunday School is Over"

Our Sunday School is over and we are going home  
Goodbye, goodbye, be always kind and good.

## **Lesson 28: Why do we need to be committed to the pursuit of a transformed church and society towards an abundant and meaningful life for all?**

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 22,  
2019

**General Concept:** We need to be committed to the pursuit of a transformed church and society towards an abundant and meaningful life for all because this is the will of God and we need to participate in the work towards its realization.

**Biblical Reference:** 2 Kings 5:1-14, Galatians 6:10a

**Key Verse:** Galatians 6:10a

<sup>10</sup>Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people.

### **Age-Level Concepts**

- We have to help in the work for a good and happy life for all because it is what God wants us to do.
- We have to help in the work for change to show that we obey God.

### **Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Tell why we have to help in the work for a good and happy life
- Ask God to accept whatever help they can offer

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, Visual aids for the story, Color sheet (see Art Activity)

## **Biblical Background**

2 Kings 5:1-14

Leprosy, much like AIDS today, was one of the most feared diseases of the time. Some forms were extremely contagious and, in many cases, incurable. In its worst forms, leprosy led to death. Many lepers were forced out of the cities into quarantined camps. Because Naaman still held his post, he probably had a mild form of the disease, or perhaps it was still in early stages.

Naaman's servant girl was an Israelite, kidnapped from her home and family, and brought to Aram. We don't know the little girl's name or much about her, but her brief word to her mistress brought healing and faith in God to a powerful Aramean captain (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible*, p. 613). Naaman experienced great changes in his life – he was cured of his leprosy and he became a believer of God – through the little girl's act of concern.

## **Suggested Lesson Outline**

### ***Greeting Time***

Welcome the children to your class. Greet each one with "Magandang Buhay"  
Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing "I'm Happy, Very Happy Today."

### ***Learning Time***

Discovering the Biblical Truth

"Naaman Made Well and Happy"  
(Based on 2 Kings 5:1-14)

Long time ago, in Aram, there was a commander of an army. His name was Naaman. He was a strong and brave army. He won in many battles. But he was not happy because he was sick. He had leprosy. He knew that sooner or later, he will die.

In their house, they had a servant girl. She believed and worshipped God. She pitied Naaman. She wished that he will be healed so that he will be happy again.

One day, she went to Naaman's wife and said. "Ma'am, I know of someone in our place who can heal Sir Naaman. His name is Elisha. He is a prophet of God. Sir Naaman can see Prophet Elisha and ask him to heal him."

When Naaman heard what the girl had said, he immediately went off to see Prophet Elisha. Seeing Naaman, Prophet Elisha said, "Go to the Jordan River. Wash yourself there seven times. And you will be healed."

Indeed, Naaman was healed, after washing himself seven times in the Jordan River. He went home well and very happy. And he began to believe in God.

Review the story:

1. Why was Naaman not happy? Let the children describe his situation.
2. Who helped Naaman find a solution for his problem? What did she do?
3. Why do think the little girl helped Naaman?
4. What changes did Naaman experience?
5. If you were the little girl, will you also help Naaman? Why?
6. Why do we need to help?

Learning a New Song "God's People Help Each Other"  
(Children Praise God, 106)

God's people help each other, today and long ago  
And share God's love and care, wherever they may go  
God's people in the Bible times, God's people today  
Work and help each other in a very special way.

Memorizing a Verse

Let the children memorize and recite Galatians 6:10a

<sup>10</sup>Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people.

Lesson Learned

Little acts of kindness that change people's lives and make others happy is our contribution to the work for a good and happy life.

Applying the Lessons Learned

**Art Activity – Coloring**

## **A LITTLE GIRL helps NAAMAN**



Give each child the HAPPY and SAD face that you used in the previous sessions. Tell the children to raise the HAPPY FACE if the statement shows helping others live a good and happy life; and the SAD FACE if not.

1. I joined our neighbors in cleaning our surrounding to keep it clean and beautiful.
2. I save money so that when our teacher asks donations for poor children, I have something to give.
3. I collect some toys to help in the program of gift giving during Christmas.
4. I sent away a beggar who asks food.
5. I join other children who distribute relief goods to children who are victims of calamity.

### ***Closing Time***

Sing again            “God’s People Help Each Other”

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you for allowing us to experience a good and happy life every day. But there are others who are suffering and in pain. Teach us to help in the works that will make others live good and happy lives. Amen.

Goodbye Song        “Goodbye” (Children Praise God, 72)

Goodbye everybody it's time to go home  
Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye.

**Lesson 29: As a church, how do we become a responsible, empowered, self-reliant and caring community of Christian believers committed to the pursuit of a transformed church and society towards an abundant and meaningful life for all?**

First Sunday after Christmas Day

December 29, 2019

**General Concept:** The Church must educate, mobilize and act.

**Biblical References:** 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

**Key Verse:** 2 Corinthians 8:12a

<sup>12</sup>For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has.

### **Age-Level Concepts**

- We can become an active, strong and caring church by teaching each other to be so.
- The Church can do its work better by encouraging people to join in.

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Share of what they have learned from the Church on being active, strong and caring
- Show ways by which we can teach each other to be an active, strong and caring Church
- Invite other people to join our Church
- Pray to God to help our Church be active, strong and caring

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, visual aids for the story, color sheets (see Art Activity)

### **Biblical Background**

2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Paul, writing from Macedonia, hoped that news of the generosity of these churches would encourage the Corinthian believers and motivate them to solve their problems and unite in fellowship.

During his third missionary journey, Paul had collected money for the impoverished believers in Jerusalem. The churches in Macedonia – Philippi, Thessalonica, and Berea – had given money though they were poor, and they had given more than Paul expected.

Paul wanted to emphasize to the Corinthian believers that the kingdom of God spreads through believers' concern and eagerness to help others. He wanted the Corinthian believers to realize how strong and active community they are, excelling in everything – they had faith, good preaching (speech), much knowledge, much earnestness, much love. Paul wanted them to also be leaders in giving. He showed them that giving is a natural response of love. Paul did not order the Corinthians to give, but he encouraged them to prove that their love was sincere (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 2102*)

## **Suggested Lesson Outline**

### ***Greeting Time***

Welcome the children to your class. You can give a hug to each child as they enter your class. Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing again "I'm Happy, Very Happy Today."

### ***Learning Time***

Discovering the Biblical Truth

"Paul Encourages the People"  
(2 Corinthians 8:1-15)

Paul was a believer of Jesus. He traveled to different places. He went to the churches in Macedonia. He taught people about Jesus and his love for all. The people believed in Jesus.

In Jerusalem, there were poor and hungry believers. They needed help. They needed money. They needed food. Paul told the Macedonians about the poor believers in Jerusalem. Immediately, the believers in Macedonia volunteered to give money to show their love for God and to others. They give even if they were poor. They felt very happy that they were able to help.

Paul also taught the rich people in other churches. He wrote to the Corinthian believers. He told them about the situation of the poor believers in Jerusalem. He also told them how the Macedonian believers helped generously. He encouraged the believers in Corinth to also show their love. Many were encouraged. They also sent their help to Jerusalem. It made them very happy to care for others.

Review the story: (Use your HAPPY FACE and SAD FACE).

Tell the children to raise the HAPPY FACE if the statement is true, and SAD FACE if not.)

1. Paul was a believer of Jesus

2. Paul travelled to many places to teach about Jesus.
3. The people whom Paul taught believed in Jesus.
4. The believers in Jerusalem were poor.
5. Macedonian churches did not help the believers in Jerusalem.
6. Paul encouraged the believers in Corinth to give.
7. Corinthian church also sent their help to Jerusalem.
8. The believers in Macedonia and Jerusalem were happy to help.

Learning a New Song "I'm Happy Today"

1. I'm happy today, I'm happy today, because of Jesus' love for me (2x)
2. I'm happy today, I'm happy to day, because I'm here in church today (2x)
3. I'm happy today, I'm happy to day, because my friends are here with me (2x)
4. I'm happy today, I'm happy to day, my church is serving everyday (2x)
5. Let's join hands today, let's join hands today, and show we care for others too (2x)

**I'M HAPPY TODAY**

Words & Music: EE Vanguardia 10.17.19



- 1 I'm hap-py to - day, I'm hap-py to-day be-cause of Je-sus' love for me for me.
- 2 I'm hap-py to - day, I'm hap-py to-day be-cause I'm here in church to-day to-day.
- 3 I'm hap-py to - day, I'm hap-py to-day be-cause my friends are here with me with me.
- 4 I'm hap-py to - day, I'm hap-py to-day my church is ser-ving eve - ry - day ry - day.
- 5 Let's join hands to - day, Let's join hands to - day, and show we care for o - thers too thers too.

Memorizing a Verse

Let the children memorize and recite 2 Corinthians 8:12a

<sup>12</sup>For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has.

*Lesson Learned*

We must encourage each other to develop willingness to participate in all activities, to make our church strong, active and caring.

*Applying the Lessons Learned*

**Art Activity – Coloring**

Our **CHURCH** is  
**STRONG**  
**ACTIVE, and**  
**CARING**



**BRING A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR**

Tell the children to bring a friend or neighbor next Sunday to participate in Sunday School and worship. This is a simple way of participating to make the church strong and active.

**VISITATION**

Invite other children for a visitation. This is also a simple way to show that the church cares.

***Closing Time***

Sing again "I'm Happy Today"

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you for our church. Thank you that our church is active in doing its activities. Thank you that we are able to participate in our church activities. Thank you that by our activities, we are able to show care to others. Teach us to encourage others to participate in all church activities. Amen.

Goodbye Song "Goodbye" (Children Praise God, 72)

Goodbye everybody it's time to go home  
Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye

*Lesson 30: What is the church's mission?*

**Epiphany Sunday**

Second Sunday after Christmas Day  
January 5, 2020

**General Concept:** The Church has no mission other than the mission of Christ; the Church simply continues the mission of Christ.

**Biblical Reference:** Matthew 4:23-25

**Key Verse:** Matthew 4:23

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

**Age-Level Concepts**

- My Church's work is the work of Jesus.
- My Church continues the work of Jesus.

**Learning Objectives**

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Recall the good deeds of Jesus
- Appreciate the work of Jesus, especially with the poor and the sick
- Name the work that the Church does
- Thank God that our Church is able to continue the work of Jesus.

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, visual aids for the story, color sheet (see Art Activity), pictures of the local church ministries:

- a. Sunday School/VCS Activities/ Bible Studies
- b. Preaching/worship activities
- c. Medical-Dental missions /hospitals/visitations and praying for the sick
- d. Feeding Program
- e. Jail Ministry, etc.

**Biblical Background**

Matthew 4:23-25

Jesus was teaching, preaching, and healing. These were the three main aspects of his ministry. Teaching shows Jesus' concern for understanding; preaching shows his concern for commitment; and healing shows his concern for wholeness. His miracles of healing authenticated his teaching and preaching, proving that He truly was from God.

Jesus soon developed a powerful preaching ministry and often spoke in the synagogues. Most towns that had ten or more Jewish families had a synagogue. The building served as a religious gathering place on the Sabbath and as a school during the week. The leader of the synagogue was not a preacher as much as an administrator. His job was to find and invite rabbis to teach and preach. It was customary to invite visiting rabbis like Jesus to speak.

Jesus preached the gospel – the Good News – to everyone who wanted to hear it. The gospel is that the kingdom of heaven has come, that God is with us, and that he cares for us. Jesus' words were good news because they offered freedom, hope, peace of heart, and eternal life with God. (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 1651*)

### **Suggested Lesson Outline**

#### **Greeting Time**

Welcome the children to your class. You can give a hug to each child as they enter your class. Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing again. "I'm Happy Today."

#### **Learning Time**

Discovering the Biblical Truth

"Jesus Teaches, Preaches, and Heals"  
(Matthew 4:23:25)

In a place called Galilee, Jesus went around teaching. He taught the people about God's love. He proclaimed the good news that a new kingdom is coming. It's a kingdom where there is love. It's a kingdom where there is healing. It's a kingdom where there is food for everyone. It's a kingdom where everyone cares for each other. He also healed every disease and sickness of the people.

The people were excited to experience the kingdom. They followed Jesus every day and listened to Him. They also brought to Him their sick friends and loved ones – those who suffered severe pain, the demon possessed, the paralyzed, the blind, and many others; and Jesus healed them all. He also brought back to life some who were dead. When it was already

late, and the people were hungry, Jesus gave food to the people. Jesus did so many good things to all the people who came to Him.

Review the story: (Use your HAPPY FACE and SAD FACE. Tell the children to raise the HAPPY FACE if the statement is true, and SAD FACE if not.)

1. Jesus taught.
2. Jesus taught about God's love.
3. Jesus preached.
4. Jesus healed the sick
5. Jesus sent the paralyzed away.
6. Many people followed and listened to Jesus.

Learning a New Song "Jesus Went About Doing Good"

Jesus went about doing good, the Bible tells me so  
He healed the sick and helped the blind  
To little children, He was kind  
He gave some hungry people food  
To everyone, He's kind and good  
Jesus went about doing good, the bible tells me so.

Memorizing a Verse

Let the children memorize and recite Matthew 4:23

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

*Lesson Learned*

As a church, we only do the things that Jesus did – we also teach as Jesus taught, we preach as Jesus preached, and we also heal as Jesus healed.

*Applying the Lessons Learned*

### **OUR CHURCH TEACHES, PREACHES, AND HEALS**

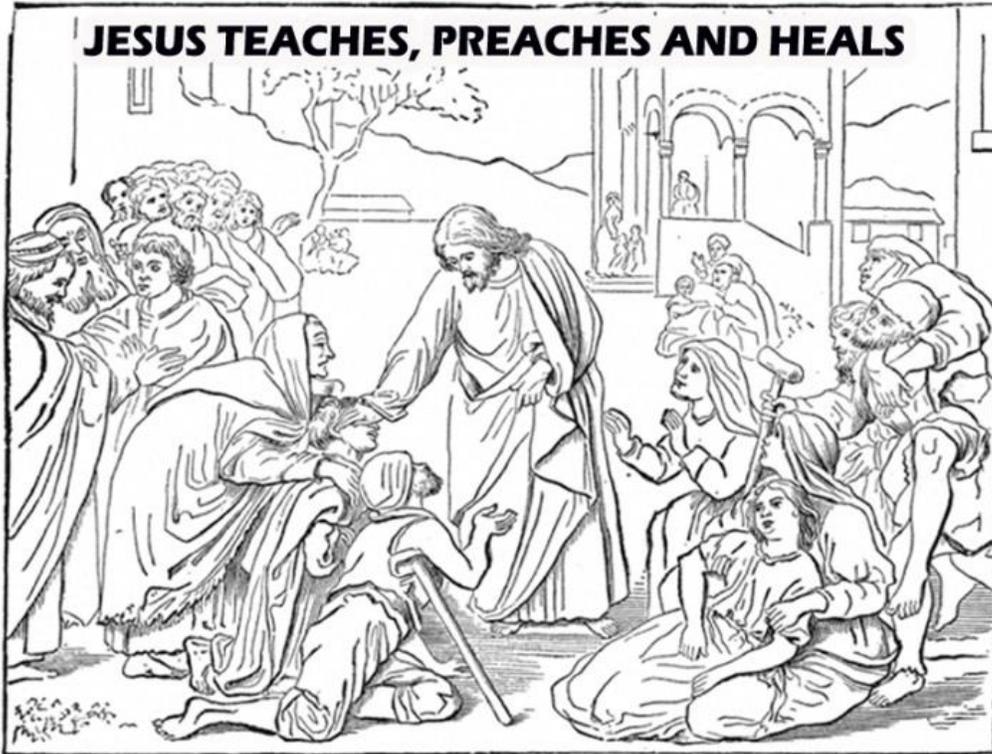
Show pictures of your the local church ministries (or the whole UCCP's ministries)

- a. Sunday School/VCS Activities/ Bible Studies
- b. Preaching/worship activities
- c. Medical-Dental missions /hospitals/visitations and praying for the sick
- d. Feeding Program
- e. Jail ministry, etc.

Tell the children that, like Jesus, our church also teaches through the Sunday School, VCS, Bible Studies. Like Jesus, our church also preaches through the pastors. Like Jesus, our church also does healing ministry, through our hospital (if there is one),

through or Medical-Dental Missions, through visiting and praying the sick, etc. What Jesus did, we also do.

### Art Activity – Coloring



### Closing Time

Sing again “Jesus Went About Doing Good”

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you for the many good things that Jesus did. Thank you that He came and taught us. Thank you that He came and healed the sick, and fed the hungry, and gave life to the dead. Teach us to be like Him – teaching others about you, giving food to the hungry, helping people who are sick and praying for them. Thank you for our church that is doing what Jesus did. Please bless our church and the things that our church is doing. Amen.

Goodbye Song “Goodbye” (Children Praise God, 72)

Goodbye everybody it’s time to go home  
Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye

## Lesson 31: What does it mean to establish the community of faith?

### Baptism of the Lord

First Sunday after the Epiphany  
January 12, 2020

**General Concept:** To establish the community of faith means to firmly root, propagate and strengthen it in order for it to last.

**Biblical Reference:** Acts 11:19-26

**Key Verse:** Acts 11:21

<sup>21</sup>The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.

Or Acts 11:26b

<sup>26</sup>...The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

### Age-Level Concepts:

- To build up God's people, they have to know their story and what they believe in.
- To build up God's people, they have to spread and become strong.

### Learning Objectives:

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Point out what they like about our Church
- Tell the stories they have heard about our Church and how it came about
- Ask God to help the Church grow

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, visual aids for the story,color sheet (see Art Activity), Pictures of the early beginnings of the local church

### Biblical Background

Acts 11:19-26

When the church accepted Peter's testimony that the gospel was also for Gentiles, Christianity exploded into Gentile areas, and large numbers became believers. The seeds of this missionary work had been sown after Stephen's death when many believing Jews were persecuted and scattered, settling in faraway cities and spreading the gospel.

It was in Antioch that Christianity was launched on its worldwide mission and where the believers aggressively preached to the Gentiles (non-Jews who did not worship God). Philip had preached in Samaria, but the Samaritans were part Jewish; Peter preached to Cornelius, but he already worshiped God. Believers who were scattered after the outbreak of persecution in Jerusalem spread the gospel to other Jews in the lands they fled to. At this time, the believers began actively sharing the Good News with Gentiles.

With the exception of Jerusalem, Antioch of Syria played a more important role in the early church than any other city. After Rome and Alexandria, Antioch was the largest city in the Roman world. *In Antioch, the first Gentile church was founded, and there the believers were first called Christians (11:26)*. Paul used the city as his home base during his missionary journeys. Antioch was the center of worship for several pagan cults that promoted much sexual immorality and other forms of evil common to pagan religions. It was also a vital commercial center – the gateway to the eastern world. Antioch was a key city both to Rome and to the early church.

The young church at Antioch was a curious mixture of Jews (who spoke Greek or Aramaic) and Gentiles. It is significant that this is the first place where the believers were called Christians (or “Christ-ones”), because all they had in common was Christ – not race, culture, or even language. (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 1973-1974*)

## **Suggested Lesson Outline**

### ***Greeting Time***

Welcome the children to your class. You can give a hug to each child as they enter your class. Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing again “I’m Happy Today” or The Love of Jesus

### ***Learning Time***

#### ***Discovering the Biblical Truth***

“The First Church Was Built”

(Based on Acts 11:19-26)

Many, many years ago, the people who knew and believed in Jesus went to other places. They spread the story about Jesus. They also went to Antioch. Antioch was a very big city with many people. However, the people there were not good. They worshipped other gods, not Jesus. They did not know God. They did not know Jesus. But when they heard the story about Jesus, they turned away from their other gods. They turned to Jesus. They believed in Jesus. They worshipped Jesus.

Barnabas and Paul heard the story of the believers in Antioch. They went to Antioch. They met the believers in Antioch. They taught them more about Jesus. They encouraged the believers to remain faithful in Jesus. More believers were added each day to the group. The believers in Antioch grew in number and became a big church. The believers of Jesus in Antioch were called Christians.

### **FAMILIARIZE THE TERMS**

Let the children familiarize the important terms:

- a. CHURCH – a community of people who believe in Jesus
- b. CHRISTIAN – a person who believes and follows Jesus

Ask the children: “Do you like our church? What is it about our church that you like most?”

Learning a New Song “Diyos, Salamat sa Iglesya”

(Tune: Where is Thumbman)

Diyos, salamat sa Iglesya, na puno ng saya  
Tayo’y maligaya na magkakasama, salamat, sa ‘Yo, O Diyos.

Diyos, salamat sa Iglesya, na nagmamahalan  
Tayo’y maligaya na magkakasama, salamat, sa ‘Yo, O Diyos.

Diyos, salamat sa Iglesya na sa ‘Yo’y sumasamba  
Tayo’y maligaya na magkakasama, salamat, sa ‘Yo, O Diyos.

### *Memorizing a Verse*

Let the children memorize and recite Acts 11:21

<sup>21</sup>The Lord’s hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.

Or Acts 11:26b

<sup>26</sup>...The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

### *Lesson Learned*

The church grows and becomes strong if we continue to spread the news to other people and teach them about Jesus.

### *Applying the Lessons Learned*

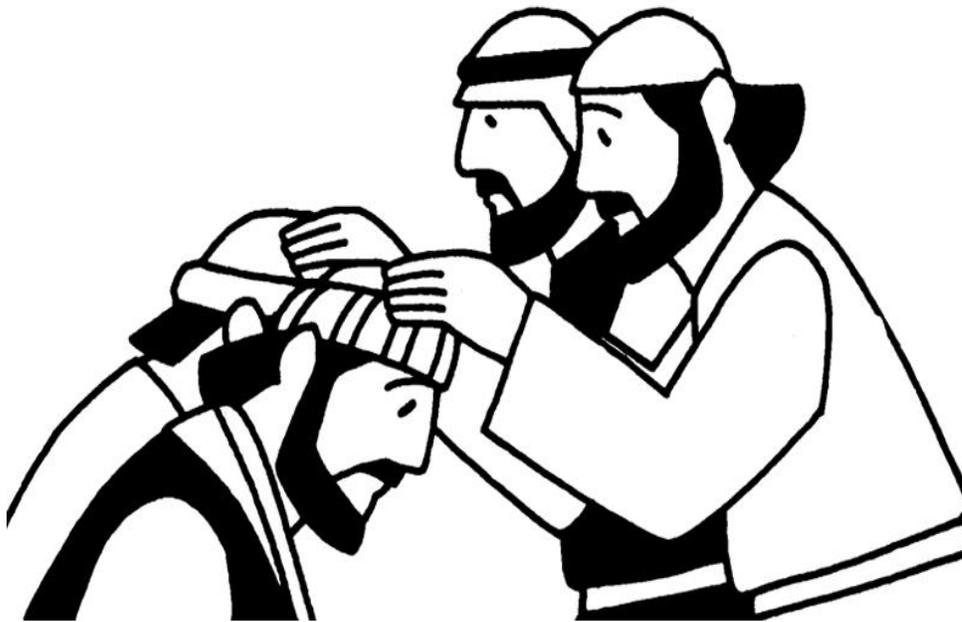
### **LISTENING TO THE LOCAL CHURCH’S STORY**

Invite your pastor or an elder (the oldest one maybe) to tell the story about your local church – where, how, and when it started; and how the church grew in number.

Mention familiar people to the children so that they can relate – their lolos or lolas maybe.

Art Activity – Coloring

## **BARNABAS & PAUL PRAYING FOR THE BELIEVERS IN ANTIOCH**



### ***Closing Time***

Sing again            “Diyos ,Salamat sa Iglesya”

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you for our church. Thank you for the people who worked hard so that our church will be built strong and alive. Thank you for the people who preached the good news about Jesus. Thank you for the early believers of our church. Thank you that they were able to find other believers. Lord, help us that we can also find other people to believe in you and to become members of the church. Amen.

Goodbye Song        “Goodbye” (Children Praise God, 72)

Goodbye everybody it’s time to go home

Goodbye, goodbye, goodbye.

## Lesson 32: Why do we need to establish the community of faith?

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 19, 2020

**General Concept:** We need to establish the community of faith so that it becomes a stronghold of faithful witnesses.

**Biblical Reference:** 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

**Key Verse:** 1 Thessalonians 5:11

<sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

### Age-Level Concepts

- We build up God's people, the Church, so that it will become a home of those who truly believe in Jesus Christ.
- We build up the people of God so that they can help do the work of the Church.

### Learning Objectives

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Picture the kind of people that are considered God's people
- Tell why God's people should grow and be made strong
- Thank God that they are part of God's people.

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, visual aids for the story, colored paper or stationery paper, prepared printed letter is recommended (only the names are to be written by the children).

### Biblical Background

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The church at Thessalonica was very young, having been established only two or three years before this letter was written. The Christians in Thessalonica needed to mature in their faith. In addition, there was a misunderstanding concerning Christ's second coming – some thought Christ would return immediately, and thus they were confused when their loved ones died because they expected Christ to return beforehand. Also, believers were being persecuted during this time.

Paul comforted the Thessalonians by reminding them of the hope of the resurrection. Then he warned them to be prepared at all times, for Jesus Christ could return at any moment. When Christ returns, those Christians who are alive and those who have died will be raised to new life. Paul then gave the Thessalonians a handful of reminders on how to prepare themselves for the second coming. (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 1973-1974*) Paul encouraged them to put on the armor of faith to keep them strong in life's journey. He reminded them to remain active in doing their tasks, and also to encourage one another while waiting for Jesus' return.

## **Suggested Lesson Outline**

### ***Greeting Time***

Welcome the children to your class. You can give a hug to each child as they enter your class. Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing again "I'm Happy, Very Happy Today" or "I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy"

### ***Learning Time***

Discovering the Biblical Truth

"The Early Believers Encourage Each Other"  
(Based on 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)

The people waited for Jesus' return. But many years had already passed, Jesus did not return. Their loved ones have died. But still, Jesus did not return. The people got tired of waiting for Jesus. Some were discouraged. Some believers stopped believing in Jesus. Some stopped doing good. They returned to their old bad deeds.

Paul wrote them, "Dear brothers and sisters. You have known God already. You have started doing good. Continue your good works. Do not go back to your old bad deeds. Jesus will come soon. Jesus wants to see you doing good when he comes, so that we can be with Him."

Paul also said in his letter, "Each of you, do not stop believing in Jesus. Always help each other. Always give kind words to each other, just as in fact you are doing."

Learning a New Song "Move Me" (Children Praise God, 115)

Move me, move me, move me to do Thy will  
Move me, move me, move me to do Thy will.

Move us ...

Help me ...

Help us ...

Keep me strong ...

Keep us strong ...

*Memorizing a Verse*

Let the children memorize and recite 1 Thessalonian 5:11

<sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

*Lesson Learned*

We can help build up God's people by encouraging them to remain strong in their faith \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus and continue their work in the church, even if there are problems.

*Applying the Lessons Learned*

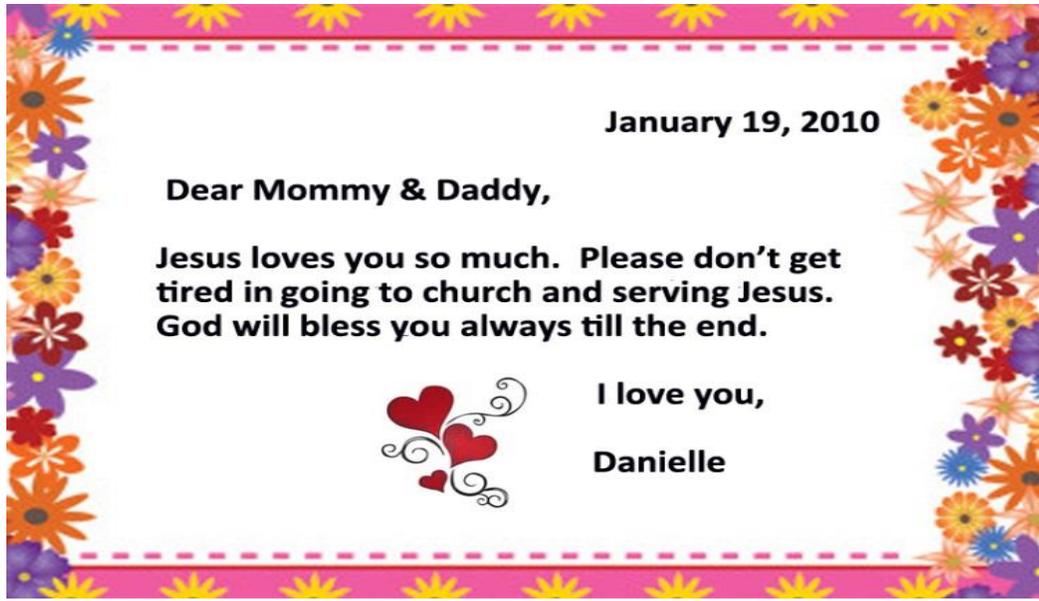
**LETTER WRITING:**

On ¼ or ½ sheet of colored paper, make a letter of encouragement to (a friend classmate, brother, sister, parents, pastor, etc). Help the children write the names.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_  
Jesus loves you so much. Don't get tired in going to church and serving Jesus.  
God will bless you always till the end.  
Love,  
(name of child)

(You can also make some decors on your letter.)

Sample letter:



Note: Be sure that the letters are sent and received.

**Closing Time**

Sing again "Move Me"

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you for all who are in church. We thank you for our brothers and sisters and parents. Thank you for classmates and friends. Thank you for our pastor and his/her family. We pray that they be strong and healthy always. We pray that they will be happy always in coming to church and serving Jesus. When they have problems, please, God, help them. Help them also in their work, at home, in the office and here in church. Amen.

Goodbye Song "Paalam" Children Praise God, 71  
Paalam, Paalam sa yo kaibigan ko  
Paalam, Paalam ingatan ka ng Dios.

**Lesson 33: What does it mean to unite the community of faith?**

Third Sunday after the  
Epiphany

January 26, 2020

**General Concept:** To unite the community of faith means to become one in beliefs, aspirations and principles towards a common prophetic witness.

**Biblical Reference:** Acts 8:4-8, Ephesians 4:4-5

**Key Verse:** Ephesians 4:4-5

<sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit ... <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all ...

### **Age-Level Concepts**

- To make God's people one is to have the same belief in Jesus.
- To make God's people one is to work together to make God's world more beautiful and better.

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Share how their parents, teachers or elders talk to them about Jesus
- Show what they can do together to make God's world more beautiful and better
- Ask God's help to make God's people one

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, visual aids for the story, color sheet (see art activity), cut-out pictures (see art activity)

### **Biblical Background**

Acts 8:4-8

Persecution forced the Christians out of Jerusalem and into Judea and Samaria – thus fulfilling the second part of Jesus' command (see Acts 1:8). Though they scattered, but their faith in Jesus united their hearts to spread the gospel. The persecution helped spread the gospel.

Leaving their homes in Jerusalem to escape the persecution, the believers carried with them the gospel. Wherever they have reached, they shared the gospel to anyone whom they encountered.

The *Philip* mentioned in the story was not the apostle. He was a Greek-speaking Jew, "full of the Spirit and wisdom". He was one of the seven deacons chosen to help with the food distribution program in the church (Acts 6:5). To escape persecution in Jerusalem, he fled to Samaria, where he continued preaching the gospel.

Israel had been divided into three main regions – Galilee in the north, Samaria in the middle, and Judea in the South. The city of Samaria (in the region of Samaria) had been the capital of

the northern kingdom of Israel in the days of the divided kingdom, before it was conquered by Assyria in 722 B.C. During that war, the Assyrian king took many captives, leaving only the poorest people in the land and resettling it with foreigners. These foreigners intermarried with the Jews who were left, and the mixed race became known as Samaritans. The Samaritans were considered half breeds by the “pure” Jews in the southern kingdom of Judah, and there was intense hatred between the two groups. But Jesus himself went into Samaria (John 4), and he commanded his followers to spread the gospel there (Acts 1:8) (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 1960-1961*)

### **Suggested Lesson Outline**

#### ***Greeting Time***

Welcome the children to your class. Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing again “Father We Thank Thee for the Night” or “I’ve Got the Joy, Joy, Joy

#### ***Learning Time***

Discovering the Biblical Truth

“The Early Believers Were One in Faith”

(Based on Acts 8:4-8)

Many people believed in Jesus. They became one in their faith in Jesus. Though they were persecuted, they did not stop believing in Jesus. They were still excited to share to others what they learned about Jesus.

To escape from death and suffering, they went to other places and preached the good news about Jesus to anyone they met. One of them was Philip. He was a new believer. He went to a place called Samaria to preach about Jesus. The people accepted his teachings. They, too, accepted Jesus and believed in Him as Lord and Savior. Philip baptized the people. Philip also healed many sick people – the lame, the paralyzed and those with evil spirits. The people were very happy to know about Jesus.

Review the Story: Ask the following questions:

1. What made the believers one?
2. What good things did the believers do?
3. What did Philip do?
4. Do you think the people were happy to learn about Jesus?
5. Do you think the people were happy when their sick friends were healed?
6. Do think what the believers and Philip did were good?

Learning a New Song

“We Are One in the Bond of Love”

We are one in the bond of love (2x)

We have joined our spirits with the spirit of God  
We are one in the bond of love.

We are one in our faith in God (2x)  
We have joined our spirits with the spirit of God  
We are one in our faith in God.

We can make a better world (2x)  
If we join our spirits with the spirit of God  
We can make a better world.

(Stanzas 2 & 3 are added to fit with the lesson)

#### *Memorizing a Verse*

Let the children memorize and recite Ephesians 4:4-5

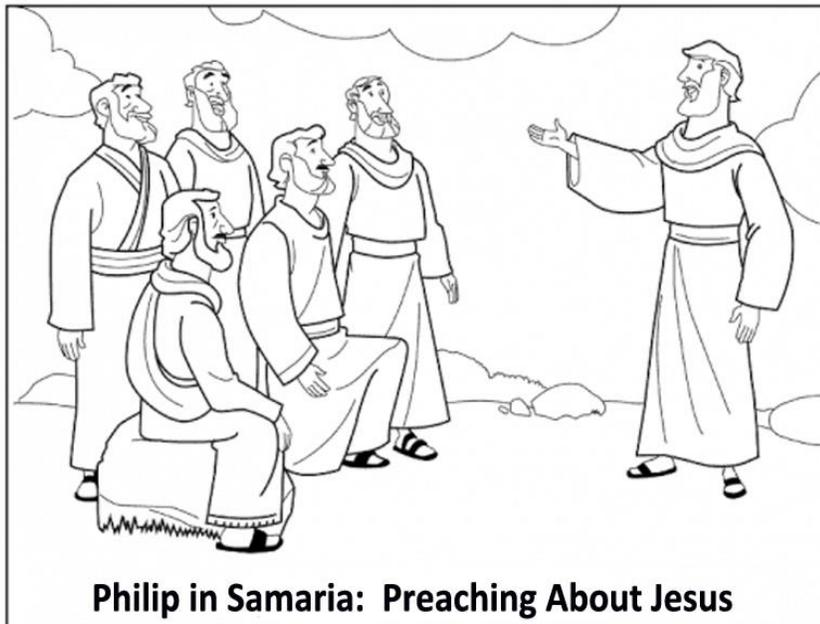
<sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit ... <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all ...

#### *Lesson Learned*

Our faith in Jesus can make us one. Through our faith, we can do good and beautiful things.

#### *Applying the Lessons Learned*

#### **ART ACTIVITY – Coloring**



OR

## **MURAL – WE CAN MAKE A BETTER WORLD**

Provide the children with one or two cut-out pictures of children or people doing good. Help them paste the pictures on ½ piece of manila paper with the heading “WE CAN MAKE A BETTER WORLD”

### ***Closing Time***

Sing again                    “We Are One in the Bond of Love”

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you for the many things we heard and learned about Jesus. Thank you that through Him, we learn to do good things. Help us to teach others about Jesus. Help us to teach others to do good, too. Make us one in our faith in you. Amen.

Goodbye Song

Goodbye, goodbye, to you and you and you  
Goodbye, goodbye, may God watch over you.

### **ASSIGNMENT:**

Ask their mother or father or anyone in the family to tell them a story about Jesus.

### ***Lesson 34: Why do we need to unite the community of faith?***

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 2, 2020

**General Concept:** We need to unite the community of faith to manifest our commitment to effectively carry out Christ’s mission and to be in accord with Jesus’ prayer “that they may be one”.

**Biblical Reference:** 1 Corinthians 1:10-17, John 17:21a

**Key Verse:** John 17:21a

I pray ... <sup>21</sup>that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.

### **Age-Level Concepts**

- We must come together to help each other in doing the work of Jesus.
- We must come together as God’s people because it is what Jesus asks for.

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Tell why God's people should come together
- Say Jesus' prayer for people to become one
- Pray for God's people to become one

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, visual aids for the story, art papers, old colored magazines (see Art Activity)

## **Biblical Background**

1 Corinthians 1:10-17

Paul founded the church in Corinth on his second missionary journey. Eighteen months after he left, arguments and divisions arose, and some church members slipped back into an immoral life-style. Paul wrote this letter to address the problems, to clear up confusion about right and wrong, and to remove the immorality among them. The Corinthian people had a reputation for jumping from fad to fad; Paul wanted to keep Christianity from degenerating into just another fad.

In this large and diverse Corinthian church, the believers favored different preachers. Because there was as yet no written New Testament, the believers depended heavily on preaching and teaching for spiritual insight into the meaning of the Old Testament. Some followed Paul, who had founded their church; some who had heard Peter (Cephas) in Jerusalem followed him; while others listened only to Apollos, an eloquent and popular preacher who had had a dynamic ministry in Corinth. Although these three preachers were united in their message, their personalities attracted different people. At this time, the church was in danger of dividing. By mentioning Jesus Christ ten times in the first ten verses, Paul makes it clear who it is all preachers and teachers should emphasize. God's message is much more important than any human messenger. (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 2062*)

## **Suggested Lesson Outline**

### ***Greeting Time***

Welcome the children to your class. Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing again            "We are One in the Bond of Love"  
We are one in the bond of love  
We are one in the bond of love  
Let us join our spirit with the spirit of God  
we are one in the bond of love.

### ***Learning Time***

## Discovering the Biblical Truth

### “Paul Calls for Unity” (Based on 1 Corinthians 1:10-17)

The church in Corinth is a big church. There were many members in the church. Paul built the church. After Paul built it, he left to preach to other places.

One day, when Paul was in Ephesus, he heard that members of Corinth were quarreling. Paul was worried about them. Some said, “We will follow Paul.”

Others said, “No, it’s Peter that we should follow.”

Some also said, “Apollos is better than them. We will follow Apollos.”

And some would say, “Jesus is the only Lord and Savior. We should follow Jesus only.”

They kept quarreling. They forgot their tasks. Paul felt sad. So he wrote them.

“Dear brothers and sisters, I am writing to you in Jesus’ name. Please stop your quarrel. It’s not good to quarrel with each other. You are all believers in Christ. Christ is only one. You should be one also. Please agree with each other so that there will be no division among you. If you are one, you can work better and be able to finish your tasks.”

#### Discussion and Reflection on the Story:

1. What happened to the members in the church in Corinth?
2. How did Paul feel about their quarrel?
3. Is it good to quarrel?
4. Do you think Jesus is happy when we quarrel?
5. If we quarrel, do you think we can do or finish our work?

#### Learning a New Song “We Are One in the Spirit”

We are one in the spirit, we are one in the Lord (2x)

And we pray that all unity be one day be restored

And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love

Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

#### OR “Magkaisa Tayo” (Children Praise God, p. 55)

Magkaisa tayo, magkaisa, la la la la la la la la (2x)

Napakagandang pagmasdan kung tayo’y ngkakaisa (2x)

#### *Memorizing a Verse*

Let the children memorize and recite John 17:21a

I pray ... <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.

*Lesson Learned*

We are one in Jesus. We can work better when we are one.

*Applying the Lessons Learned*

**ART ACTIVITY – Paper Cutting**



**Prepare the cut-out figure. Help the children paste them on a bond paper with the heading, “WE ARE ONE”**

**You can use art paper or old colored magazines for the cut-outs.**

***Closing Time***

Sing again                    “Magkaisa Tayo, Magkaisa”

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you for our church. Thank you for all the members that come every Sunday. We pray that all members will be always united. We pray that they will not quarrel with each other. We pray that we will not also quarrel in our class. But we work together, we study together, and we play together happily. Bless each one of us. Amen.

Goodbye Song

Goodbye, goodbye, to you and you and you  
Goodbye, goodbye, may God watch over you.

**Lesson 35: What is life-proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ?**

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany  
February 9, 2020

**General Concept:** Life-proclamation of the Good News is to make known God's saving grace through Jesus Christ through our life and ministry.

**Biblical Reference:** Acts 3:1-10, Matthew 5:16

**Key Verse:** Matthew 5:16

<sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

### **Age-Level Concepts**

- Others will know about Jesus through me.
- We can tell people about God's love by what we do every day.

**Learning Objectives:** By the end of the session the learners are expected to:

- Enumerate the characteristics of Jesus that they remember
- Demonstrate how they can show Jesus' love to others
- Pray that God will help them in everything they do

**Materials:** The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, visual aids for the story, art papers, old colored magazines (see Art Activity)

### **Biblical Background**

Acts 3:1-10

The Jews observed three times of prayer – morning (9:00 am.), afternoon (3:00 p.m.), and evening (sunset). At these times, devout Jews and Gentiles who believed in God often went to the temple to pray. Peter and John were going to the temple at 3:00 p.m.

The gate called Beautiful was an entrance to the temple, not to the city. It was one of the favored entrances, and many people passed through it on their way to worship. The crippled man was begging where he would be seen by the most people.

"In the name of Jesus Christ" means "by the authority of Jesus Christ." The apostles were doing this healing through the power of the Holy Spirit, not their own. (*Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 1949*). The apostles only served as the channel of God's power to heal. Through them, Jesus continued to be made known to the people.

### **Suggested Lesson Outline**

#### ***Greeting Time***

Say "Hi" to each child who enters your classroom. Recognize the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing again "I'm Happy Today"

1. I'm happy today, I'm happy today, because of Jesus' love for me (2x)
2. I'm happy today, I'm happy to day, because I'm here in church today (2x)
3. I'm happy today, I'm happy to day, because my friends are here with me (2x)
4. I'm happy today, I'm happy to day, my church is serving everyday (2x)
5. Let's join hands today, let's join hands today, and show we care for others too (2x)

### I'M HAPPY TODAY

Words & Music: EE Vanguardia 10.17.19



- 1 I'm hap-py to - day, I'm hap-py to - day be - cause of Je - sus' love for me for me.
- 2 I'm hap-py to - day, I'm hap-py to - day be - cause I'm here in church to - day to - day.
- 3 I'm hap-py to - day, I'm hap-py to - day be - cause my friends are here with me with me.
- 4 I'm hap-py to - day, I'm hap-py to - day my church is ser - ving eve - ry - day ry - day.
- 5 Let's join hands to - day, Let's join hands to - day, and show we care for o - thers too thers too.

### Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

"The Lame Man Knew Jesus"

(Based on Acts 3:1-10)

It was three o'clock in the afternoon. Peter and John went to the temple to pray. Near the temple's door sat a lame man. He was begging for money. He was lame since he was born. Everyday he goes to the temple to beg.

When he saw Peter and John coming, the lame raised his arms. He said, "Sir, please give me some money. Please sir." Peter and John looked at him.

Peter said, "We have no money to give you. But listen. In Jesus' name, stand up and walk!"

Instantly, the man's feet and ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began walking. He was jumping and praising God. He was healed. He entered the temple and continued praising God. There he came to know Jesus by what the apostles did.

Review the Story (Use your HAPPY FACE and SAD FACE. Raise the HAPPY FACE if the statement is true and the SAD FACE if not.)

- a. Peter and John went to the temple to pray.
- b. Peter and John saw a beggar near the temple gate.
- c. The beggar was blind.
- d. The beggar asked for some money.
- e. Peter and John gave the beggar some money.
- f. Peter and John said, "In Jesus' name, stand up and walk"
- g. The beggar was healed.
- h. The beggar went walking and jumping and praising God.
- i. The beggar entered the temple and continued praising God.

Learning a New Song                      "Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam"  
Jesus wants me for a sunbeam, To shine for Him each day  
In every way try to please Him, At home, at school, at play.

A sunbeam, a sunbeam, Jesus wants me for a sunbeam  
A sunbeam, a sunbeam, I'll be a sunbeam for Him.

*Tagalog: "Nasa ni Jesus sa Akin" MASP 305*

Memorizing a Verse

Let the children memorize and recite Matthew 5:16

<sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your  
good                      deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

*Lesson Learned*

We can show to others that Jesus is in us when we do good to them.

*Applying the Lessons Learned*

### **ROLE PLAY – SHOWING JESUS' LOVE TO OTHERS**

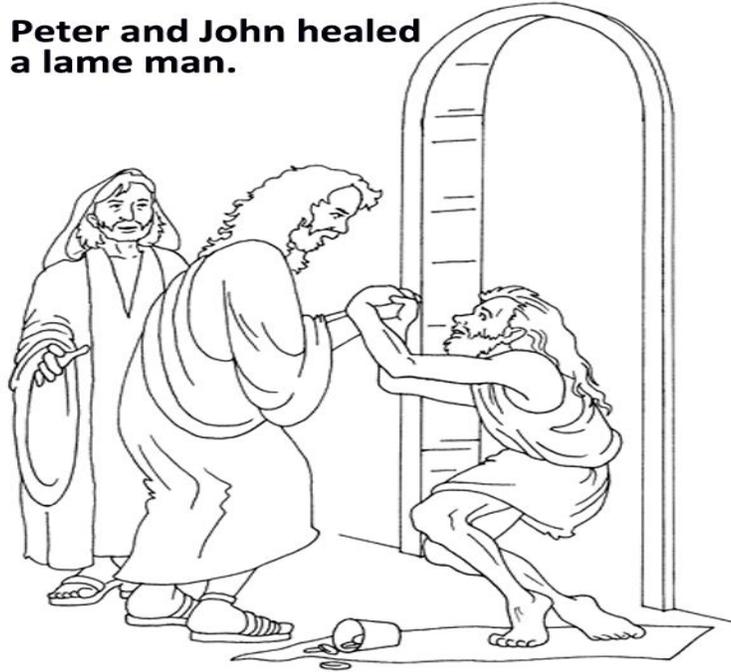
Group 1 – The beggar was healed (as what is told in the story)

Group 2 – The beggar was given money or food

Group 3 – The beggar was assisted to walk

### **ART ACTIVITY - Coloring**

**Peter and John healed  
a lame man.**



***Closing Time***

Sing again                    “Jesus Wants Me for A Sunbeam”

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, we thank you for sending Jesus here on earth. Thank you that through Him, we learn to love other people and do good to them. Teach us everyday to do good as Jesus did. May Jesus be seen in us as we do good to others. Amen.

Goodbye Song

Goodbye, goodbye, to you and you and you  
Goodbye, goodbye, may God watch over you.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

The students will ask their parents about what Jesus did when He was here on earth. Be sure to take some time to discuss the assignment in your next session.

